

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07 IO-10 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OES-03 TRSE-00 COME-00 /050 W

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R 252142Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9571

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 7647

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, XM

SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT'S CRITICISM OF U.S. ON AGRICULTURAL  
PROPOSAL

REF STATE 161501 (NOTAL)

1. IN CONVERSATION JUL 22 WITH DR. JULIO GIL, ADVISOR TO  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MANUEL  
PEREZ GUERRERO, EMBASSY OFFICER INQUIRED ABOUT HIS IMPRESSIONS  
OF RECENT CONSULTATION IN ROME ON ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTER-  
NATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD), WHICH GIL  
HAD ATTENDED FOR VENEZUELA. DISCUSSION BROADENED INTO REVIEW  
OF VENEZUELA'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS FOLLOW-UP TO WORLD FOOD CON-  
FERENCE (WFC).

2. EMBASSY OFFICER REFERRED TO PRESIDENT PEREZ' CRITICISM OF  
THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE ON JUNE 30 AND ASKED IF GIL COULD BE MORE  
SPECIFIC REGARDING GOV POINT OF VIEW. GIL SAID THAT PEREZ'  
REMARKS WERE PROBABLY INFLUENCED BY GOV IMPRESSION OF  
THE FIRST SESSION OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL WHICH  
IMMEDIATELY PRECEDED PEREZ' SPEECH. HE SAID THE VENE-  
ZUELAN DELEGATION RECEIVED A VERY NEGATIVE IMPRESSION OF  
THE CONFERENCE, INCLUDING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE SECRE-  
TARIAT AND THE CONDUCT OF SOME OF THE DELEGATES. HE  
REFERRED TO ONE DELEGATION SEATED CLOSE TO VENEZUELAN  
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DELEGATION (BUT NOT THE U.S. DELEGATION) WHICH WAS SEEN

DRINKING DURING THE SESSION AND WAS THE SOURCE RUDE COMMENTS. THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION WAS CRITICAL OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOT CALLING THE DELEGATION OUT OF ORDER.

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT PERZ' REMARKS AT THE HABITAT MEETING WERE DELIVERED EXTEMPOANEOUSLY AND WITHOUT REFERENCE TO VISIBLE NOTES. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE NEGATIVE REPORT RECEIVED FROM THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION TO THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN THE PROXIMATE CAUSE OF HIS CRITICAL REMARKS ON THE WFC, AS SUGGESTED BY GIL. NEVERTHELESS, THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS, CONSIDERED IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS CRITICISM OF THE U.S. FOR ALLEGED FAILURE TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE HEMISPHERIC RESEARCH EXCHANGE CENTER, REFLECTED A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN THE FOOD AREA.

4. THE INCREASED INVOLVEMENT OF PEREZ GUERRERO AND HIS STAFF IN FOOD POLICY MATTERS MAY INCUDEA MORE CONSTRUCTIVE GOV ATTITUDE REGARDING INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICIES. GIL AND HIS CHIEF SEEM TO HAVE A FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF U.S. EFFORTS TO RESOLVE FOOD PROBLEMS. SHALUDEMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS, FOODS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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